

December 12, 2018

The Honorable Ajit Pai, Chairman
The Honorable Michael O’Rielly, Commissioner
The Honorable Brendan Carr, Commissioner
The Honorable Jessica Rosenworcel, Commissioner

Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
455 12th Street, Southwest
Washington, DC, 20544

Dear Chairman Pai,

I am writing to support the Comments of the Cable Act Preservation Alliance (“CAPA”) and to oppose the proposals and tentative conclusions set forth in the FCC’s September 25 Further Notice of Proposed Rule Making in *Implementation of Section 621(a)(1) of the Cable Communications Policy Act of 1984 as Amended by the Cable Television Consumer Protection and Competition Act of 1992*, MB Docket 05- 311.

I have produced PEG access TV programs in Covington, KY and Cincinnati, OH for more than 20 years. All of my training was through access facilities and staff. I have won several local, regional and one international production award during this time. At this time, I was one of the first African-American females to emerge as a producer and I continue to use my skills I learned to produce content for public enjoyment. My productions have gone through the transitions of ¾”, ½”, DVD and digital formats.

The past three years I have produced “What People With Disabilities Teach Us”, a local TBNK/CPC show where host Mike Delaney discusses a variety of physical and mental disabilities with people who experience these and share their stories with viewers so they can learn from them. My production program experience includes spiritual entertainment, drama, pageants, music festivals, documentary interviews, civil rights and other community activities I attend. Without PEG access these stories and events most likely would have been missed through traditional broadcast resources. Our local channels are an important resource to producers of content and our public viewers and facilitate sharing community information and entertainment with the public.

Our local Public, Educational, and Governmental, (PEG) Access channels provide a wide range of local programming about our community, which is a valuable service to Northern Kentucky residents, community organizations, and viewers. Our local PEG TV studio at the Telecommunications Board of Northern Kentucky (TBNK), also provides access to a professional studio, editing and field equipment for local residents, schools, and community organizations, who would not otherwise have access to such facilities, as well as much needed training and guidance.

Local PEG programming includes coverage of high school and college football and basketball games, swimming and diving and other sports, as well as many community events. The PEG channels air numerous local government meetings every month, as well as Northern Kentucky election programs and results. The channels also broadcast local music and entertainment, documentaries, and public affairs shows, as well as information about local community service organizations and agencies, and issues of interest to Northern Kentucky.

Promoting such diversity of views and information through local PEG programming was one of congress' specific stated intents of the Cable Act. The FCC's proposed FNPRM goes against this stated intent, and would force communities to choose between franchise fees and PEG channels, which would cripple and very likely eliminate the PEG channels in most communities across the country, since most cities will not be able to afford the loss in fees. The loss of franchise fees would also eliminate the main source of operational funding for PEG channels in most communities. This has never been the way the law worked for decades and was never the intent of the Act.

We appreciate your consideration and urge the FCC to protect PEG channels and funding in our community and others by choosing not to adopt the Further Notice of Proposed Rule Making.

Sincerely,

Pamela Mullins
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Covington, KY 41011